

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are now pending in this application. The Final Office Action mailed May 20, 2005 rejected claims 1-27. Claims 28-34 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which the Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 1-27 have been canceled. No new matter has been added. For the reasons discussed in detail below, Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over the art of record and respectfully request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 11-14, 17 and 19-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent No. 5,752,244 issued to Rose et al. (hereafter "Rose") in view of U.S. patent No. 6,192,370 issued to Primsch (hereafter "Primsch"). The Office Action also rejected claims 2, 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Rose and Primsch and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,873,075 issued to Cochrane (hereafter "Cochrane"). In addition, the Office Action rejected dependent Claims 5 and 6 as being unpatentable over the combination of Loaiza and Cochrane in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,787,452 to McKenna. Moreover, dependent Claims 7-10 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Rose and Primsch and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,175,835 issued to Shadmon. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the new claims' limitations. For example, new claim 28 recites a method for managing network address translation (NAT) connections that, among other things, includes for each stored NAT connection datum, assigning each of a plurality of data structure types to the same stored NAT connection datum. Each of the plurality of data structure types are based on at least one of an IP address or a port number. Nowhere do the cited references disclose or suggest each of the stored NAT connection datum having each of a plurality of data structure types assigned to them. Moreover, nowhere do the cited references describe each of the plurality of data structures as being based on at

claims. Thus, in view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration, and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims pending for examination is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

By the foregoing explanations, Applicant believes that this response has responded fully to all of the concerns expressed in the Office Action, and believes that it has placed each of the pending claims in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. Should any further aspects of the application remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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